

REMARKS

In the Final Office Action mailed on October 23, 2006, the Examiner took the following action: (1) rejected claim 1 under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated over Bayeh (U.S. Patent no. 6,223,202) (hereinafter, “Bayeh”); and (2) rejected claims 2 – 11, and 13 – 24 as being unpatentable over Bayeh, and further in view of Benitez (U.S. App. Pub. No. US 2002/0161908) (hereinafter, “Benitez”). The amendments to claims 1, 2, 7 and 13 are simply to provide clarification and/or to correct informalities noted by the Applicant, and are not to overcome prior art or any other objections. Applicant respectfully request entry of the amended claims and reconsideration of the pending claims in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Bayeh. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite a method that includes “receiving a request from a sending device, the request comprising a hierarchical identifier; comparing the hierarchical identifier with at least a portion of a configuration file to identify an appropriate user-mode process of a server device for handling the request; and providing the request to the identified appropriate user-mode process of the server device that directly handles the request by providing a response for transmission to the sending device”.

Bayeh does not disclose this method. Bayeh discloses sending a request to a specific TCP/IP socket associated with a virtual machine (Column 8, lines 53-56) to a TCP port to a process that parses the request before forwarding the request to an application queue (column 10, line 61 – 67). Applicant, unlike Bayeh, forwards the request directly to the process that handles the request and can eliminate user-mode process hops and associated processing delays.

To summarize, Bayeh does not disclose “providing the request to the identified appropriate user-mode process of the server device that directly handles the request by providing a response for transmission to the sending device” as required by amended claim 1. Thus, claim 1, as amended, is allowable over Bayeh and the § 102 rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 2 - 3, 7-11, and new claims 34 - 35 depend from claim 1 and are allowable by virtue of this dependency. Accordingly, the §102 rejection should be withdrawn. Additionally, some or all of claims **2 - 3, 7-11, 34-35** are allowable over Bayeh for independent reasons. For example:

Claim 2 recites “modifying the configuration file automatically in accordance with rules generated by an administrator”. Bayeh does not show or suggest this feature. Accordingly, claim 2 is allowable over Bayeh and the §102 rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 7 recites “the URL not including information specifying the process in the server that will handle the request”. In Bayeh the URL specifies the host destination address and servlet (column 8, lines 26 – 30). Applicant uses a configuration file that specifies the process in the server. Accordingly, claim 7 is allowable over Bayeh and the §102 rejection should be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. §103 Claim Rejections

Claims 2 – 3, 7– 11, and 13 - 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for obviousness over Bayeh, and further in view of Benitez (*10/23/06 Office Action p.3*). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections.

Amended claim 13 recites “causing a request generated by a client device to be received in a server device using a kernel-mode process, the request comprising a hierarchical identifier associated with a client device; causing the kernel-mode process to compare the hierarchical identifier with at least a portion of a configuration file to identify a most applicable user-mode process for handling the client device generated request within the server device; and causing the kernel-mode process to provide the client device generated request to the identified most applicable user-mode process that will provide a response to the request for the client device.”

Bayeh and/or Benitez do not teach or suggest the combination of feature(s) recited in claim 13. For example, Bayeh and/or Benitez do not teach or suggest “causing a request generated by a client device to be received in a server device

using a kernel-mode process” or “provide the client device generated request to the identified most applicable user-mode process that will provide a response to the request for the client device”.

As previously described neither Bayeh nor Benitez teach forwarding the request directly to the process that handles the request. Further Benitez describes transferring data between a user mode and a kernel mode. However, Benitez does not describe causing a request generated by a client device to be received in the kernel mode process of the server device, as recited in claim 13.

Accordingly, claim 13 is allowable over the Bayeh-Benitez combination for at least the reasons described above, and Applicant respectfully requests that the §103 rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 14 – 20 are allowable by virtue of their dependency upon claim 13 (either directly or indirectly). Accordingly, the §103 rejection should be withdrawn.

Cancelled Claims

Claims 4-6, and 21-24 have been cancelled.

New Claims

New claims 34 – 37, including independent claim 36 are presented for examination. Based on the above discussion regarding Bayeh and Benitez claims

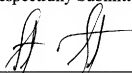
34 - 37 are also allowable. Additionally, claims 34 - 35 are allowable by virtue of their dependency upon claim 1.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request entry of this amendment, entry of new claims 34-37, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-3, 7-11, and 13-20 and allowance of same. If any issue remains unresolved that would prevent allowance of this case, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned attorney to resolve the issue.

Dated: 2/19/2007

Respectfully Submitted,

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